

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SY-07 OPR-02 DODE-00 INRE-00 PPT-02 AID-20

USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-14 NSC-10 RSR-01 /098 W
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P R 161006 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3835

INFO CINCPACREPPHIL

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 3087

DEPT ALSO FOR SCS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE CASC MOSLEM CONFLICT: SECURITY OF AMERICANS

1. OVER PAST THREE WEEKS OF SPREADING AREAS OF HOSTILITIES
IN THE SOUTH WE HAVE INTENSIFIED ALREADY ESTABLISHED
PROCEDURES TO INSURE THAT THERE IS NO OFFICIAL AMERICAN
INVOLVEMENT IN THREATENED AREAS AND THAT BEST OBTAINABLE
ADVICE IS AVAILABLE TO PRIVATE CITIZENS.

2. PRESENT SITUATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL AMERICANS PRESENT IN AREAS
WHERE MILITARY ACTIVITY IS UNDERWAY, I. E., SULU, AND PROVINCES
OF NORTH AND SOUTH ZAMBOANGA AND COTABATO.

(B) TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, VIRTUALLY ALL AMCIT BUSINESSMEN
HAVE WITHDRAWN, AT LEAST FROM THE SPECIFICALLY
TROUBLED AREAS.

(C) SOME OF AMERICAN AND OTHER FOREIGN MISSIONARIES
HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM ACTIVE AREAS, PARTICULARLY IN SULU;
OUR PRESENT INFORMATION IS THAT SOME FIFTEEN AMERICANS REMAIN
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IN COTABATO AND FIVE IN SULU.

(D) WE HAVE EXTENDED STANDING INSTRUCTION THAT ENSURES SCREENING OF ANY PROPOSED TRAVEL BY OFFICIAL AMERICANS OR DEPENDENTS INTO DESIGNATED DISTURBED AREAS TO COVER ALL THOSE PROVINCES IDENTIFIED ABOVE.

3. SITUATION IS UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW AND SPECIAL MEASURES/ CONTROLS WILL BE ALTERED AS APPROPRIATE.

4. MISSION AND FIELD POSTS HAVE RECEIVED A FEW ANXIOUS QUERIES FROM RESIDENT PRIVATE AMERICANS AS TO NATURE OF EMBASSY' S PLANS TO ASSIST THEM SHOULD EVACUATION BECOME NECESSARY, IN A PATTERN SPORADICALLY FAMILIAR DURING TENSE TIMES IN THE PAST. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BE REASSURING WITHIN LIMITS OF E& E PROCEDURES. IT IS LIKELY THAT INQUIRIES WILL MULTIPLY IN WAKE OF EXAGGERATED AND PARTIALLY FALSE MEDIA REPORTS CONCERNING GOP NOTIFICATION OF INSURGENT PROBLEM TO ALLIED AND ASEAN GOVERNMENTS (SEPTTEL).
BYROADE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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